



# Ice World



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## Chapter 1 by Đuro

### Chapter 1

Exactly nine years, two months and 12.52 days after launch, Tuban approached a position of first retro burn. According to calculations, engine should fire maximum throttle for 37 seconds. If everything goes well, the ship will first perform a close flyby of moon Dysnomia, and use opportunity to take as much photos of it's surface as possible.

Captain Orville C. Read was just about to sip his first coffee after 9 years when Clara beeped warning message. "Attention all personnel! Attention.. Be advised, enjoying stimulative substances directly impairs your recuperation phase, hibernation is unnatural and dangerous! ..."

The computer has been alarmed because half of the crew already was either smoking or drinking, only few hours after awakening.

It is very difficult or impossible to gather a team of educated people, ready to spend half of their lives in space.. And to do it without everyday's little pleasures.

"Sh.., like we don't know that... Mr. Morris, what's the status on the main engine!?"

"All readings within expected values, Sir!"

"Mr. Chase .. sorry. Miss Chase. Could you please make some discipline down there? Do I have to remind everyone that any person out of personal cradle seat will be squashed when engine starts!"

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"Do not worry Sir!"

"Somebody should switch  
whispered

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Rosemary Chase

"The team is ready for orbit approach, Sir!

Rosemary was a security officer.

People were already strapped to their seats when smoke and fumes sensors picked up a little party in the crew quarters.

"OK!" Captain continued:

"Mr. May, switch all control to Clara and put sequence to broadcast. I want all to be aware and ready!"

"They are not astronauts, just a bunch of nerds. Isn't that so Mr. Morris?"

Morris, chief engineer, just nodded his head.

"T minus 60 seconds!" Clara's female voice started to countdown.

Orbit approach burn should decelerate ship to almost 10 Mps. And it will use most of fuel supplies. It is also essential phase of travel. If failed, the ship would whiz by Eris and be lost forever.

The crew and passengers knew that, and the odds of success were 92%. What they did not know was the mission details.

Only the Captain met his crew before the day one.

"T minus 15 seconds! ...

Who was in the quarters, only Rosemary saw their faces, but was not authorized to ask questions.

"10, 9, 8, ..."

Crew activity schedule for October the 2nd, 2112 was the following:

Mission briefing, 30 minutes after orbit approach burn.

Dysnomia flyby, 127 minutes after burn.

Eris orbit insertion burn, October 1st, 2112.

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"4, 3, 2, 1"

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## Chapter 2

## Chapter 2 by intellikat



Shit. It wasn't even Dysnomia, after all that chatter.

It was Orgolon-6, the pleasure-center of the Nebulon galaxy. And even with all the eggheads on board, calculations on fuel were incredibly off, as were the figures for a near flyby. The ship shuddered violently as it entered the atmosphere of Orgolon-6 and all of the ship's sensors and Clara the AI went absolutely space-bonkers as the ship plunged downward.

Like it or not, these space-nerds were in for a sexy mission.

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